

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions about Opioid Prescribing

Opioid Crisis Statistics

- In 2016, East Baton Rouge Parish **overdose deaths exceeded motor vehicle deaths** and equaled homicide deaths
- Sales of prescription opioids in the U.S. **quadrupled** from 1999-2014, but there was no overall change in pain reported by Americans
- In 2013, **Louisiana ranked first in opioid prescribing** according to the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
- **4.3 million** Americans are engaged in non-medical use of prescription opioids
- According to the NIH, **80%** of heroin users started out misusing prescription opioids



Louisiana Medicaid Opioid Prescription Policy

Date	Population	Policy
Jan. 10, 2017	Fee for Service (FFS) Patients: Acute & Chronic Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid opioid 15-day quantity limits
March 22, 2017	Managed Care Organization Patients: Acute Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement 15-day quantity limit for opioid-naïve recipients
May 2017	FFS and Managed Care Organization Patients: Acute & Chronic Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alert to notify providers of upcoming Morphine Equivalent Dosing (MED) limit of 120 mg per day for all opioid prescriptions
July 10, 2017	FFS and Managed Care Organization Patients: Acute Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7-day quantity limit for opioid-naïve recipients or Morphine Equivalent Dosing (MED) limit of 120 mg per day, whichever is less
July 10, 2017	FFS and Managed Care Organization Patients: Chronic Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morphine Equivalent Dosing (MED) limit of 120 mg per day for all opioid prescriptions
Sept. 12, 2017	FFS and Managed Care Organization Patients: Chronic Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morphine Equivalent Dosing (MED) limit of 90 mg per day for all opioid prescriptions and consolidated Opioid Worksheet to 3 pages

Exclusions: Any patient with cancer, palliative care or terminal illness are excluded from the opioid limits .

Q&A

Q I am treating patients with cancer, terminal illness, and/or palliative care. Will this policy affect them?

A No. Patients with cancer, terminal illness and/or palliative care are exempt from the policy.

Q I have patients with chronic pain who I as a provider medically deemed to need longer therapy. Are there any options?

A Yes. Prescribers can submit a prior authorization (PA) to exceed the limit with appropriate medical justification.

Q I don't need more paperwork. With 5 MCOs, that makes 6 more pieces of paper fill out . Can you cut the "red tape"?

A Yes. FFS and the 5 MCOs will utilize one common Opioid Analgesic Treatment Worksheet (consolidated 9/12/17) to minimize "red tape" for providers with patients needing extended opioid therapy.

Q What steps are the *federal* government taking to combat the opioid epidemic and how might they affect me?

A The DEA announced that there would be a 25% decrease in amount of opioid medication that can be manufactured in the U.S., with Hydrocodone manufacturing reduced by 33%. Half of the opioid prescriptions written in Louisiana are Hydrocodone.

Medicaid Provider Resources

Medicaid Resources on Opioids

- **Opioid Informational Bulletin with Provider Resources**
http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Informational_Bulletins/2017/IB17-2.pdf
- **To Request Opioid Override Use: Opioid Analgesic Treatment Worksheet (consolidated 9/12/17)**
<http://ldh.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Pharmacy/OpioidAnalgesicTreatmentWorksheet3page082317ver2.pdf>

Nonopioid Treatments for Chronic Pain

- **Nonopioid Treatments for Chronic Pain**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/alternative_treatments-a.pdf

CDC Guidelines

- **CDC Opioid Guidelines At-A-Glance**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/guidelines_at-a-glance-a.pdf
- **Calculating Total Daily Dose of Opioids for Safer Dosage**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/calculating_total_daily_dose-a.pdf
- **CDC Opioid Guideline Mobile App**
<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/app.html>
- **CDC Pocket Guide: Tapering Opioids for Chronic Pain**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/clinical_pocket_guide_tapering-a.pdf
- **Pocket Guide on Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/turnthetide_pocketguide-a.pdf



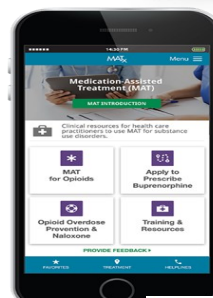
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OPIOID GUIDE
APP TODAY

www.cdc.gov

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

- **SAMHSA's Medication-Assisted Treatment App (MATx)**
<http://store.samhsa.gov/apps/mat/>
- **Medications and Counseling Treatment**
<https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/treatment>
- **SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit**
<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content//SMA16-4742/SMA16-4742.pdf>
- **Opioid Treatment Locator**
<http://dpt2.samhsa.gov/treatment/directory.aspx>



Patient Resources

- **Prescription Opioids: What You Need to Know**
<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/aha-patient-opioid-factsheet-a.pdf>
- **Promoting Safer and More Effective Pain Management**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/guidelines_factsheet-patients-a.pdf
- **Pregnancy and Opioid Pain Medications**
https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/pregnancy_opioid_pain_factsheet-a.pdf



More than
40
PEOPLE

die every day from
overdoses involving
prescription opioids

Opioid CME for Providers

- **SAMHSA's Opioid Prescribing Courses for Health Care Providers**
<https://www.samhsa.gov/medication-assisted-treatment/training-resources/opioid-courses>
- **NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse: Opioid Pain Management CMEs and CEs**
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/opioid-pain-management-cmesces>

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